

October 9, 2003

I would like to say that I personally am against the idea of eliminating the code requirement to obtain a license to operate on the HF bands.

A1A or CW may be one of the easiest transmitters to come up with in a crunch in case of real emergency and the new codeless operators on the will hear the repeating SOS (...--...) code on a SSB frequency and concenter it to be interference or QRM. The distress signal could be coming from someone operating a half broken transmitter by turning on & off a AM or FM carrier who really needs assistance.

I personally believe that listening to tapes or buzz boxes is not as exciting as real on-the-air contacts.

My suggestion would be that the current no-code technician class licensed hams be allowed to operate CW only on some segments of most of the current HF bands to help them become proficient in CW so that they can pass the code requirements for upgrading.

I believe that there will be many current CW operators on the air now that would be willing to help the novice operators increase CW proficiency.

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